

6 October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Good Relationships Update – Focus on Punctuality

As we approach the middle of Term 1 it is great to see our school community settling into the rhythm of this academic year. They are keen to learn, and we have been impressed with the way in which they are applying themselves in lessons and trying their best.

We know that we have high expectations, and we continually remind our students that this is because we want to prepare them for the wider world. One of our expectations is around punctuality both to school and also to lessons. We value this as a school because it shows respect to the teacher who has planned and is delivering the lesson and also because being organised is one of our ALIVE values.

As outlined in our Behaviour and Good Relationships Policy, any student who is late to school twice in one week will receive an after-school detention. This means arriving at school after 8:30am – as this is the start of the school day and our tutor sessions are carefully planned with key information. Arriving late can mean that students miss important notices and activities as part of our Pastoral Curriculum.

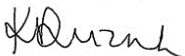
As a school located in Central Bristol, we recognise that public transport can sometimes make getting to school on time challenging. We know that the most of our students and their families are doing all they can to get to school for 8:30am, however there are times when being punctual is taken out of your control. We want to support you and do not wish to punish students where there is a valid reason for lateness. We cannot change the late arrival cut-off time to accommodate all public transport eventualities, however we are willing to listen and respond if we are aware of reasons that may mean your child will be late to school. In these instances, we are more than happy to remove detentions and work with you.

Please contact your child's tutor if there is a current transport issue which means that it is highly likely that your child may be late to school, and we will ensure that they do not receive a sanction. If we miss your email and they receive a detention in error, please let us know and we can change this.

Our policy explains that this is a stepped approach to reviewing punctuality. We will maintain this stepped approach although the guidance and interventions will reflect what we know about each case. We will keep our approach under review so that we maintain the right balance between being empathetic and understanding whilst not facilitating a culture where habitual lateness is acceptable.

Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully



Mrs K Duzniak Interim Deputy Headteacher (Behaviour, Inclusion and Ethos)